



ENDING HOMELESSNESS: THE WORK OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

BACKGROUND

Since the early 1990s, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) has recognized and embraced its responsibility to ending homelessness for individuals with mental illness. A variety of strategies have been developed and implemented in order to effect positive change in our community. These strategies include:

- Developing specialized community-based programs that are equipped to serve the complex needs of homeless individuals with mental illness.
- Increasing housing resources (such as Permanent Supportive Housing) that will expand the available and desirable housing options for our clients.

DEVELOPING SPECIALIZED COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS THAT TARGET THE HOMELESS POPULATION

Homeless Outreach Teams

These teams provide outreach and engagement services to the homeless population with the goal of linking them to on-going mental health, physical health and other community services.

CalWORKS Homeless Families Project

This project assists homeless families receiving CalWORKS assistance with transitioning into permanent housing.

Full Service Partnership Programs

These programs serve clients of all ages with intensive needs, including those who are homeless, and provide services that support recovery.

Housing Trust Fund

This funding is used to provide supportive services to LACDMH clients living in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH).

Project 50/60, Street-to-Home and Other Similar Projects

These projects target the most vulnerable individuals who are homeless and mentally ill, and use a housing first model to assist them with obtaining and maintaining affordable permanent housing.

Innovation Integrated Mobile Health Team

These field-based teams provide integrated health, mental health and substance abuse services to the most vulnerable individuals and families that are homeless, using a housing first model to assist them with obtaining and maintaining affordable permanent housing.

INCREASING THE HOUSING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO CLIENTS

Permanent Supportive Housing

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Housing Program

This program provides capital and operating funds for the development of PSH dedicated to LACDMH clients.

Facilitating Partnerships Between PSH Developers and Mental Health Service Providers

These efforts assist PSH developers in meeting the requirement of making services available to tenants that are homeless and mentally ill who live in their units, which increases the number of PSH units available to this population.

Federal Housing Subsidy

This program secures grants from the City and County Housing Authorities that provide Shelter Plus Care certificates and Homeless Section 8 vouchers for PSH for LACDMH clients that meet the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) definition of homelessness.

Rental Assistance

This program provides funding for security deposits, household goods and eviction prevention for LACDMH clients who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and have limited or no income.

Temporary Shelter

This program provides short-term basic living support services to consumers and their families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.



Palo Verde Grand Opening Ceremony, January 2012

HOUSING RESOURCES FACT SHEET

(As of March 1, 2012)

FEDERAL HOUSING SUBSIDIES

- LACDMH applies for new grants every year.
- LACDMH has 12 grants with the City and County of Los Angeles Housing Authorities for Shelter Plus Care and Homeless Section 8:
 - 908 Shelter Plus Care certificates
 - 200 Homeless Section 8 vouchers
 - 90% retention rate; 93% for Shelter Plus Care
 - In Fiscal Year (FY) 2010-11, LACDMH assisted 264 clients with submitting applications to the Housing Authorities.
 - 58% Chronically Homeless
 - 72% Individuals
 - 28% Families
 - In FY 2011-12, LACDMH has assisted 222 clients to date with submitting applications to the Housing Authorities.
 - 75% Chronically Homeless
 - 79% Individuals
 - 21% Families

RENTAL ASSISTANCE

- In FY 2010-11, 619 clients were served.
- In FY 2011-12, 546 have been served to date.

MHSA HOUSING PROGRAM

- LACDMH invested \$115 million in 2007.
- \$111.8 million obligated.
- Leveraged over \$400 million of local, state and federal funding.
- Working with 21 different housing developers throughout the county.
- Projects in each service area and supervisorial district.
- 34 projects are in various stages of development.
- 1,684 total units, including 745 MHSA units.
- 9 projects are completed and occupied.

MHSA HOUSING PROGRAM PROJECTS

Age Group	Number of MHSA Projects	Number of Units
Transitional Age Youth (TAY)	9	99
TAY and Adults	4	85
Adults	9	295
Families (Including Single Adults & TAY)	6	135
Older Adults	6	131
Total	34	745

TEMPORARY SHELTER PROGRAM

- LACDMH contracts with 19 providers.
- 30 different shelter sites throughout the county.
- In FY 2010-11, 531 unique clients were served.
- In FY 2011-12, 249 clients have been served to date.

